

HELPFUL RESOURCES

JOB RESOURCES

▶ CTWORKS CAREER CENTERS

A regional Career Center is located in New Haven to provide guidance and services to those seeking employment. 203-867-4030

▶ WHERE TO TURN WHEN UNEMPLOYED

The United Way of Connecticut has produced a document titled "Where to Turn in Connecticut When You Become Unemployed." It contains information regarding unemployment insurance, medical benefits, legal assistance and help with job searches and money management. Contact my office at 1-800-842-1420 to receive this helpful publication.



I hosted the first Young Scientists Day at the State Capitol in June. Hands-on scientific experiments were conducted by Little Scientists, Inc., a Milford company which developed curricula and other learning techniques to deliver lessons in scientific discovery to grade-school students.

State Senator

Gayle Slossberg

Legislative Office Building, Room 2200, Hartford, CT 06106-1591
www.SenatorSlossberg.cga.ct.gov Slossberg@senatedems.ct.gov
Capitol: 860-240-0482; or 1-800-842-1420
Home: 203-878-6412

FOR SENIORS

▶ MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAMS (MSP)



Individuals who are enrolled in both Medicare and ConnPACE are no longer able to access ConnPACE benefits. Instead, those eligible for Medicare should apply to the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) in order to receive prescription drug assistance. There is no asset test for this program, and the income limits are the same as those for ConnPACE.

MSP offers eligible seniors savings of at least \$1,000 per year in Medicare Part B premiums. The Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy would lower prescription co-payments to \$6.30 or less. For information call Infoline at 211, or CHOICES at 1-800-994-9422 or visit www.ct.gov/dss/medicaresavingsprograms.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE & CONSERVATION

▶ SAVE ON YOUR ELECTRIC BILL

Choose Your Electric Supplier—The rate you pay for the generation portion of your electric bill may be lowered by 10 percent. 1-877-947-3873 or www.ctenergyinfo.com

Home Energy Solutions—This program helps customers reduce their bills by making their homes more energy-efficient. 1-877-947-3873

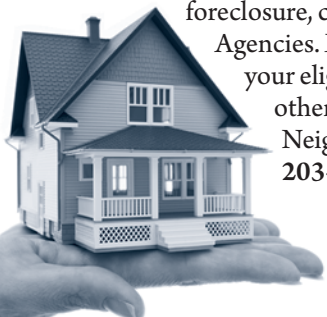
Helping With Payments—Programs are available to help customers reduce or eliminate their past-due balances. 1-800-286-2828



RESOURCES FOR FORECLOSURE RELIEF

▶ THE FIRST STEP IN CONNECTICUT

If you're having trouble paying your mortgage, or are facing delinquency or foreclosure, contact one of Connecticut's Housing Counseling Agencies. Each agency is prepared to give advice, screen your eligibility for potential assistance programs and offer other resources to help you keep your home. Call Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven at 203-562-0598.



Stay Informed in a "Green" Way



Sign-up to receive my e-mail newsletter. It's a paperless way for me to communicate with my constituents about timely issues that impact our communities and our state. To sign up, visit: www.SenatorSlossberg.cga.ct.gov



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Representing
Milford,
Orange &
West Haven

WINTER 2011



STATE SENATOR **Gayle Slossberg**

Serving Milford, Orange & West Haven

WINTER 2011

FOR OUR STATE & OUR COMMUNITY

LEGISLATIVE SUCCESS

Building on Strengths: Strategic Investments in the Future

Research and technology are critical parts of our state plan to reinvigorate the economy and set the stage for long-term job creation. Last session, the legislature invested in a state-of-the art technology park near UConn's main campus in Storrs. This project is expected to tie together a statewide plan to leverage our existing resources at the UConn Health Center in Farmington and Yale in New Haven to create a world-class research triangle. By linking this statewide initiative to New Haven's record of success and strong reputation in the field of bioscience, we will encourage job growth and generate federal and private funding to be shared amongst the research triangle facilities. This investment will strengthen the development of Yale's campus in Orange and West Haven and build a strong foundation for current and future job growth in emerging fields.



Touring one of Yale's bioscience labs with Dr. Haifan Lin, professor of cell biology.

Streamlining for a More Efficient Government

This year, I finalized two years of work leading a specially convened bipartisan commission to examine opportunities in our state to streamline, consolidate and increase government efficiency—the Commission on Enhancing Agency Outcomes (CEAO). The CEOA developed 30 recommendations to reduce spending without raising taxes. The recommendations are estimated to save the state \$450 million. Many CEOA proposals were included in this year's state budget and tempered the impact of the budget deficit on taxpayers. Other CEOA proposals continue to be discussed for future implementation.

A Vision for Connecticut's Energy Future

This year we took on Connecticut's energy costs and electric rates—which are almost the highest in the continental U.S.—while simultaneously moving Connecticut toward a clean and efficient energy future. How did we do that? First we combined the state energy and environmental departments into one. Then, we tasked the new department with improving the purchase of electricity (which leads to lower rates) studying electric market rates and their effect on higher prices, and investing in zero-emission and low-emission electric generation. The result? Cheaper, cleaner power and more high-tech, green jobs.

GROWING JOBS

Jobs are the number one issue facing Connecticut today. We took action in the legislature this year to put more people back to work and get our economy growing again. Unlike the partisan gridlock in Washington, both parties came together in Hartford to pass a Jobs Bill of common-sense improvements. We focused on small businesses, **cut the business entity tax in half** and **streamlined state regulations**. Other highlights of the bill include:



- ▶ **Helping small businesses with hiring**—We established a monthly hiring tax credit that increases when businesses hire unemployed, disabled or veteran workers. We also made it easier for businesses to hire new workers for on-the-job training.
- ▶ **Investing in start-ups**—At a time when many banks aren't lending, we invested in new start-up companies by building business incubators and expanding the angel investor tax credit.
- ▶ **Building a workforce for the future**—We will recruit students for vo-tech, agri-science and tech education by promoting their benefits with middle school parents and local boards of education. We'll also establish manufacturing technology programs at three community colleges.
- ▶ **Investing in infrastructure**—We paved the way for economic development zones at Connecticut's general aviation airports, allocated funds for shovel-ready bridge projects, and passed major reforms to lower energy costs and increase energy efficiency.

Fundraising Limits Lifted for 'Tea Cup' Raffles

After members of the Milford Hospital Auxiliary told me about a seemingly arbitrary cap on their ability to solicit donations, I introduced legislation to help. Nonprofit groups across the state struggle because public funding is scarce; the new law provides them much greater flexibility. Locally, the new law will help raise money for state-of-the-art medical equipment, which hospital officials say helps doctors use the latest and most effective medical techniques.



With Carol McInnis at the Milford Hospital Auxiliary Celebration of Trees in November.

Orange Train Station Takes Major Step Forward



Another new law this year sets in motion a unique, cooperative financing plan for a future Metro-North train station in Orange. I helped form a partnership among state and local leaders, DOT officials and a local property owner to finance the station and on-site parking with private funds.

This creative, collaborative approach will lead to an improved transportation system, which in turn will contribute to a more vibrant local economy.

Insuring MRIs to Fight Breast Cancer

We've stepped-up the fight against breast cancer by passing a law requiring certain insurance companies to pay for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) for breast cancer screening when a woman has what's called 'dense' breast tissue. A typical mammogram may not reliably detect breast cancer tumors in such tissue. The new law also requires MRI coverage if a woman is at increased risk for breast cancer due to family or personal history.



At the Get in Touch Foundation's annual "Get Your Pink On" event in Milford. Left to right: myself; Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman; Dr. Nancy Cappello; Dr. Andrea Silber; Mary Ann Wasil Nilan.